

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/617,160

Applicant(s)

AISO ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Daniel Swerdlow

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed 09 July 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. David Yang, Reg. No. 44,415 on 16 August 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims, Claims 8 through 10 are amended as follows:

8. A ~~computer program~~ machine-readable medium containing program instructions executable by a computer and causing said computer to execute:

a process of controlling processing for audio signals based on a current data being setting data representing current setting status of said computer;

a process of selecting a portion to be copied among the current data as copy data;

a process of selecting setting data to be a paste destination of the copy data from a plurality of setting data each representing a setting status of said computer and stored in a memory; and

a process of rewriting with the copy data a portion corresponding to the copy data among the setting data selected to be said paste destination.

9. A ~~computer program~~ machine-readable medium containing program instructions executable by a computer and causing said computer to execute:

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a process of controlling processing for audio signals based on current data being setting data representing a current setting status of said computer;

a process of selecting a portion to be copied among the current data as copy data;

a process of selecting setting data to be a paste destination of the copy data from a plurality of setting data each representing a setting status of said computer and stored in a memory; and

a process of temporarily loading the setting data selected to be said paste destination into a work memory;

a process of rewriting with the copy data a portion corresponding to the copy data among the loaded setting data; and

a process of writing the rewritten setting data over a load source of the setting data.

10. A ~~computer program~~ machine-readable medium containing program instructions executable by a computer and causing said computer to execute:

a process of controlling processing for audio signals based on current data being setting data representing a current setting status of said computer, including primary setting data representing a setting status of said computer and secondary setting data linked from the primary setting data;

a process of selecting primary setting data to be a paste destination of the secondary setting data constituting the current data, from a plurality of the primary setting data stored in a memory; and

a process of rewriting with the secondary setting data constituting the current data the secondary setting data linked from the primary setting data selected to be said paste destination.

EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

3. Regarding Claim 1, US Patent 6,839,441 to Powers et al. discloses a sound mixing console (Fig. 1) that corresponds to the audio signal processing device claimed and comprises: a motor control subsystem that corresponds to the first memory claimed and stores current operating parameters for the mixer (column 3, lines 26-34); electronic signal processing circuits (Fig. 1, reference 1A; column 4, lines 1-4) that correspond to the controller claimed; an electronic memory sub-system (column 3, lines 19-20) that corresponds to the second memory claimed and stores plural control console setups (i.e., primary and secondary setting data). Powers further discloses that a partially amended setup can be stored as either a new setup while retaining the original setup (column 6, lines 22-30). As such, Powers discloses selecting a portion of the data to be copied among the current data. Powers further discloses a console control section (Fig. 2, reference H; column 5, lines 64-67) that controls store and recall of console setups. However, Powers fails to disclose a paste destination selector for selecting a destination of the copy data and a paste executor for rewriting the copy data among the data selected by a paste destination selector. US Patent 4,479,240 to McKinley, Jr. discloses an audio mixing console (Fig. 4) in which amended setup data is stored in accordance with a memory address set a user with an increment switch 77 upon operation of an update switch 72 (column 5, line 62-column 6, line 3). However, McKinley fails to disclose a paste destination selector for

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selecting a destination of the copy data and a paste executor for rewriting the copy data among the data selected by a paste destination selector. US Patent 4,275,268 to Takahashi et al.

discloses a mixing apparatus for digital audio signals that is controlled by a memory element (Fig. 2, reference 20), but is silent as to the means by which the memory data is stored, recalled or modified. US Patent 4,905,185 to Sakai discloses a block data transfer apparatus (Fig. 1) that performs paste destination selection (column 6, lines 16-27) and rewriting of copy data (column 6, lines 33-41). However, there is no teaching or motivation to combine the selection and rewriting process taught by Sakai with the audio processing devices taught by Powers, McKinley or Takahashi to produce the claimed invention. Because the prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest an audio signal processing device with a paste destination selector for selecting a destination of the copy data and a paste executor for rewriting the copy data among the data selected by a paste destination selector, the claim is allowable.

4. Claims 2, 4 and 8 through 10 contain limitations similar to those of Claim 1 and are allowable for the same reasons.

5. Claims 3, 5, 6 and 7 are allowable due to dependence from their respective base claims.

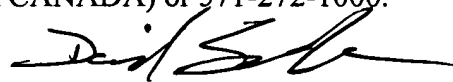
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel Swerdlow whose telephone number is 571-272-7531. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 7:30 AM and 5:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh H. Tran can be reached on 571-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Daniel Swerdlow
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2615

ds
16 August 2006